

Drug gang leader faces prison sentence

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STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — The leader of a drug-dealing gang so violent utility crews needed police escorts to work in the gang's neighborhood, could be sentenced to 14 years under a plea bargain he reached Friday.

Marshall Ray Prosser, 40, also known as "Big Daddy" and "Black Marsh," quietly pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Charles Legge to a single count of possessing and distributing between 5 to 15 pounds of cocaine.

Legge is expected to sentence Prosser to 14 years in prison on Aug. 26, as a result of the plea-bargain. The drug charge could have put him behind bars for between 10 years to life plus a \$4 million fine.

Prosser, who has both Sacramento and Oakland addresses, was reportedly heading a criminal organization that based itself on the 2600 block of 26th Avenue, using apartments and

homes there to manufacture crack, then sell it in the neighborhood, according to court records.

Prosser's operation "used force, fear and intimidation whenever necessary to achieve (the gang's) objectives," court records note.

The gang, known as the "Two Six-Hundreds Gang" mainly operated from a three-room apartment at 2526 26th Ave. After making the drugs, juveniles were dispatched to deal on the street while Prosser and other gang members used a police scanner to monitor any nearby police activity.

Residents on this block reported the violence and drug dealing in June 1992.

An investigation began in earnest on July 6, 1992, when 26-year-old trash collector Orson Curtis was killed on his morning rounds by Hailu Borhan Wesley, a 21-year-old neighborhood man who was reportedly part of the gang. Wesley was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

On Feb. 23, 1993, a PacBell lineman was as-

saulted by gang members, one wielding a hammer. He ran from the neighborhood, abandoning his truck. A labor union representing Pac-Bell filed a complaint with the company requesting police accompaniment in that neighborhood.

For the next two years, prosecutors were able to log more than 4,000 telephone calls from Prosser's home in Sacramento and the home of a paid informant who was able to infiltrate the gang. About 1,000 different telephone numbers were logged.

Twice, the informant reported, he managed to talk Prosser and other members out of killing people for not making good on drug debts, records show.

But, the man began to use drugs himself and identify more and more with Prosser and the other gang members. He became ineffective, and efforts to recruit a member of the gang to inform on his colleagues was not successful, records show.

Two face federal drug and firearm charges

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By Ben Chamy
STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — Two alleged members of a violent East Oakland drug gang, which was blamed for the 1993 killing of a trash collector, have been arrested on drug and gun charges, federal authorities said Friday.

Sean A. Slider, 27, nicknamed "Vito," was arrested as he visited a parole officer Thursday, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Ben Burch. Sandra A. Dickens, 46, was taken into custody the same day at her

Oakland home.

An indictment alleges Slider possessed more than 50 grams of crack cocaine for sale. Dickens let Slider use her home at 2628 25th Ave. to stash the drugs and firearms, the indictment alleges.

Dickens also purchased guns for Slider, a convicted felon, according to the indictment. Dickens was released on bail during an arraignment Friday. Burch said his office wants Slider in jail without bail.

Slider was one of the top lieutenants to Marshall Ray Prosser Sr.

who headed the "Two Six-Hundreds Gang" from a three-room apartment at 2526 26th Ave., police said.

For at least 10 years, Prosser lorded over a violent gang that sold drugs and monitored police scanners to elude authorities, according to indictments and court records. Prosser is now serving a 14-year sentence.

An investigation into the gang began in earnest after the July 6, 1993, killing of trash collector Orson Curtis, 26, murdered while doing his rounds in the neighborhood. Hailu Borhan Wesley, 21,

who authorities said was part of the gang, is now serving a 30-year prison sentence for the killing.

Slider lived in Hayward in 1993, and has an extensive arrest record dating back to 1986, authorities said. Court records identify him as one of the 10 main members of the gang.

An informant used by police to penetrate the gang's inner circle reported Slider packaged ounces of rock cocaine at a time, using one of three Oakland homes the drug gang had as headquarters for its operations.

Suspect denies backing gang

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By Ben Chamy
STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — Federal investigators believe Alfred Lavelle Roberts and others kept alive a violent drug gang after the arrest of its purported leader.

But Roberts has a question about all this.

"These gangs make all that money, right? So where's all that money I supposedly have?" he said during a telephone interview Wednesday denying the allegations. "I drive a 1978 Oldsmobile Cutlass, and it took me damn near a year to pay for that!"

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**Alfred Lavelle
Roberts**

Suspected gang member

Roberts was arrested Tuesday on a federal gun possession charge. He has pleaded innocent and been released on bond.

The FBI is alleging he's done more than just possess an illegal, 17-inch barrel,

sawed-off shotgun in his 25th Avenue home. FBI special agent Jim Freeman said Tuesday that Roberts and others were members of the Two Six Hundred Gang, a drug dealing group on 26th Avenue so violent that utility crews needed police escorts to work in their neighborhood.

Reputed leader Marshall Ray Prosser was arrested along with about a dozen others in 1993 after a 3-year-investigation. The following year he received a 14-year prison sentence on drug trafficking charges.

Began in earnest

The investigation began in earnest in 1992, when 26-year-old trash collector Orson Curtis was killed on his morning rounds in the neighborhood by a Two Six Hundred gang member.

The gang allegedly manufactured crack, then sold it in the neighborhood and beyond, according to court records. They used "force, fear and intimidation whenever necessary to achieve (the gang's) objectives."

The FBI alleges Roberts took over when Prosser went to prison.

"What we believe is that Roberts and his cohorts kind of shared the role with Prosser," FBI spokesman George Grotz said. "They all wanted to make money together and agreed with that setup."

Roberts denied that Wednesday.

The only contact he ever had with Prosser was over a bottle of cognac they occasionally shared.

The gun seized from his home in 1993, an act that ultimately led to Tuesday's arrest, was given to him, he says. He never used it but said he needed it to protect his family.

Parole violation charged

Possession of the shotgun led to a parole violation charge against Roberts, resulting in an 11-month prison sentence. Since his release in 1995, Roberts has worked as a telecommunications technician for a Santa Clara company.

He was also attending classes at Laney College, but he needed a job to help out his family, "not a B.A.," he said.